

good amendment. I think it gets a little closer to the intent stated in Senator Rasmussen's opening, and I will be voting for the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Horgan, did you wish to... Senator Hillman, do you wish to close on your amendment to the amendment? She waives closing. We will now vote on the amendment to the amendment as offered by Senator Hillman. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 19 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Hillman's amendment to the Hillman-Rasmussen amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment to the amendment is adopted. Now I will go back to my speaking order again. Senator Hillman, did you wish to discuss the amendment as amended?

SENATOR HILLMAN: Being a freshman senator, this issue, of course, came up in your running for office, and it is very, very difficult. I've met with a lot of people at home deciding whether or not I wanted to get into this or just wanted to sit back and watch the Legislature at work. One of the reasons I felt that I needed to work with Senator Rasmussen in looking at amending 425, first and foremost, Scotts Bluff County has the highest rate of teen pregnancy in the state. We recently acquired that dubious honor in passing Omaha. So I feel that in Scotts Bluff County, there is a special problem. In looking at any issue that affects families, I guess my own personal philosophy has been, is how the legislation would strengthen families? I think there has been a lot of legislation in the past, federal and state both, that have not supported families in issues. I do not think 425, as it is written, would support families. I don't believe you can legislate relationships, and because of that, what I would want to see is some counseling and some assistance in helping those family relationships, and to see that they could be brought together and to handle the problem that is very, very difficult for both the young person and the family. Another thing that lends to area is the fact that in western Nebraska you will not find any abortion clinics. From what I understand, most of them are located in Lincoln and Omaha. If a young girl, or any age woman is seeking an abortion in western Nebraska, she will do it out of state. LB 425 would really not address the problem in western Nebraska at all. The reason I want counseling so very badly is I would want this young person to receive counseling no matter where